



General Background

December 2000



Bridging the K-12 /Postsecondary Divide with a Coherent K-16 System. CPRE Policy Brief RB-31. Consortium for Policy Research in Education (June 2000) 12 p.

[“Originating from a conference held at Stanford University, presenters included an array of educators, scholars and policy analysts. This Brief looks at some of the primary causes of the disjunctures between the K-12 and postsecondary systems, the problems resulting from it and some ways this gap can be addressed...”]

[Request CDPAC 086]

Business Tax Credits for Child Care. By Julie Poppe. NCSL LegisBrief (Aug/Sept. 2000) 3 p.

FULL TEXT at: www.ncsl.org/legis/lbriefs/LEGIS835.htm

[“More than 60 percent of mothers with children under age six work. More than half of the 29 million families with children under 14 had parents that both worked or were headed by a single working mom. Businesses are increasingly recognizing the value of good, reliable child care for their workers. This Brief reviews the initiatives that state legislators across the U.S. are implementing to foster and encourage greater business support...”]

[Request CDPAC 087]

California’s Fiscal Outlook: LAO Projections, 2000-2001 Through 2005-2006. Legislative Analyst’s Office (November 2000) 35 p.

FULL TEXT at: www.lao.ca.gov/2000_reports/fisc_outlook/111500_fiscal_outlook.pdf

[“This report provides the LAO’s projections of General Fund revenues and expenditures. Designed to assist the Legislature with its fiscal planning, it also includes an independent assessment of the outlook for the economy, demographics, revenues, and expenditures...”]

[Request CDPAC 088]

Can Housing Vouchers Help Poor Children? Children’s Roundtable Report no. 3. By Greg J. Duncan and Jens Ludwig. The Brookings Institution (July 2000) 8 p.

FULL TEXT at: www.brook.edu/comm/ChildrensRoundtable/Issue3

[“This policy brief examines the results of an experiment aimed at dramatically improving the neighborhood conditions of children growing up in high-poverty, inter-city neighborhoods by offering families an opportunity to move to more affluent neighborhoods. The well-being of those children offered such an opportunity is compared to those who did not move...”]

[Request CDPAC 089]

How Do Social, Economic, and Cultural Factors Influence Fathers’ Involvement with Their Children? (Research Brief). [By Tamara Halle, Ph.D., and Suzanne Le Menestrel, Ph.D.] Child Trends (2000) 4 p.

FULL TEXT at: www.childtrends.org/PDF/dadinfluence.pdf

[“Socioeconomic, ethnic, and cultural variations among fathers and differences in family structure may affect fathers’ roles and their level of involvement with their children. This Brief summarizes key research findings on the ways in which various factors influence fathers’ involvement in children’s lives...”]

[Request CDPAC 090]

How Young People Are Faring Today. Children Now (October 2000).

FULL TEXT at: www.childrennow.org/newsroom/pr-10-19-00.htm

[“These reports find that California is unprepared for its teenage population growth spurt and lacks coherent solutions for problems children and adolescents face in poverty, health, education and justice. The comprehensive review of the under-18 population analyzes their well-being in a variety of areas and compares those findings against other states...”]

California: Report Card 2000 37 p.

[Request CDPAC 091]

California: State of Our Children 2000 62 p.

[Request CDPAC 092]

Incarcerated Parents and Their Children. Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report NCJ 182335.

By Christopher J. Mumola. U.S. Department of Justice (August 2000) 12 p.

FULL TEXT at: www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/iptc.htm

[“Almost 1.5 million minor children had a parent in prison in 1999, and more than 58% of those children were younger than 10 years old. This report provides an overview of incarcerated parents and their children, describing various aspects of their lives both before and during incarceration...”]

[Request CDPAC 093]

The Meaning of Father Involvement for Children. (Research Brief). [By Tamara Halle, Ph.D.] Child Trends (2000) 4 p.

FULL TEXT at: www.childtrends.org/PDF/dadmeaning.pdf

[“Few studies that include fathers tap all aspects of fathers’ involvement in children’s lives. In addition, the quality of father-child interactions is not as frequently studied or as well understood as the quantity of father-child contact. Given the large number of fathers in the U.S. who do not live with their children, this is especially problematic. This Brief summarizes key research findings on new ways of thinking about father involvement and the roles they play in children’s lives...”]

[Request CDPAC 094]

Poverty Among Working Families: Findings From Experimental Poverty Measures. Current Population Reports: Special Studies P23-203. By John Iceland. U.S. Department of Commerce Economics and Statistics Administration, U.S. Census Bureau (1998 Issued September 2000) 7 p.

FULL TEXT at: www.census.gov/prod/2000pubs/p23-203.pdf

[“This report examines poverty among working families with children, taking into account such nontraditional factors as noncash government benefits and job-related expenses. The analysis indicates that according to the experimental measures, people in full-time working families comprise a higher proportion of those in poverty than previously estimated...”]

[Request CDPAC 095]

Suffering in Silence: A Report on the Health of California’s Agricultural Workers. The California Endowment, Research conducted by the California Institute for Rural Studies (November 2000) 48 p.

FULL TEXT at: www.calendow.org/publications/AgrWorkersSurvey_ver4.pdf

[“This report is the first comprehensive study of farmworker health ever undertaken in California. 971 farmworkers were randomly chosen to represent the state’s estimated 700,000 agricultural laborers. In addition to asking questions about their ailments, health insurance status, and demographic facts, the study also took blood samples and performed physical exams to obtain objective data...”]

[Request CDPAC 096]

“Wealthy Schools Get the Gravy: Bond-Money Allocations are Twice That of Poorest Districts.” Special Report by Jim Sams. The Record (Stockton), Mother Lode Edition. (August 20, 2000) p. A1+.

[“According to a computer analysis by The Record, California’s wealthiest school districts received nearly twice as much money from the state’s latest school-bond issue as their poorer counterparts did,

receiving \$1,112 per child compared to \$571. The unequal spread of state school-bond money was found to be geographic as well as economic...”]

[Request CDPAC 097]

In our continuing quest to highlight relevant materials in a variety of formats, we would like to showcase the following items. These materials are copyrighted and may not be photocopied in their entirety. They are available, to be borrowed from your local library or for purchase, and in some cases, are available to be viewed and/or downloaded full-text from the Internet.

After-School Programs to Promote Child and Adolescent Development: Summary of a Workshop. Jennifer Appleton Gootman, Editor, Committee on Community-Level Programs for Youth. National Research Council and Institute of Medicine. Board on Children, Youth, and Families, Commission on Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education (2000) 54 p.

FULL TEXT at: books.nap.edu/catalog/9944.html

[“This report summarizes the presentations and discussions at a workshop to examine research on the developmental needs of children and adolescents and the types of after-school programs designed to promote their health and development...”]

Does Family Preservation Serve a Child’s Best Interests? By Howard Alstein and Ruth McRoy. Georgetown University Press (2000) 156 p.

[“Two professors of social work assume opposing positions on which policies are most likely to serve the best interests of children—preserving the biological family unit, or freeing the children for adoption as quickly as possible...”]

The Irreducible Needs of Children: What Every Child Must Have to Grow, Learn, and Flourish. By T. Berry Brazelton, M.D., and Stanley I. Greenspan, M.D. Perseus Publishing (2000) 228 p.

[“This book sets out to identify the fundamental requirements of a healthy childhood--the very most basic needs and care without which children cannot grow, learn, and thrive. The authors consider each need in terms of their implications for family life, child care, education, the social service and welfare systems, the criminal justice system, and the health and mental health systems, and formulate recommendations for policy changes...”]

The Unexpected Legacy of Divorce: A 25 Year Landmark Study. By Judith S. Wallerstein, Julia M. Lewis, and Sandra Blakeslee. Hyperion (2000) 347 p.

[“The authors explore and examine the effects and aftermath of divorce as it affects children from childhood to adulthood. The book compares life prospects of children of divorce with those who grew up in intact families and illustrates the long-term impacts of divorce on the American society...”]